

Crowd pleasers
Buskers entertain at Canal Days

Dream big Stanley Cup winner inspires your players

Getting upgraded
Patient services to improve in Port

Fill 'er up Site of water filling station TBD



INPORTANEWS

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INAL DAYS: Hundreds of thousands celebrate Port Colborne's marine heritage



'Sailebration'

MARYANNE FIRTH InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - Take

a bow. Port Colborne. It was smooth sailing in the lakeside city this weekend as the 33rd annual Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival took over the city's downtown.

"What a wonderful weekend," Mayor Vance Badawey said, expressing his satisfaction with the way the festival

rolled out. "I'm extremely proud of the community for having the ability to host the world.

"And host the world we did," he said, adding he met visitors from around the globe throughout the fourday event.

Thousands of people took advantage of the weekend's sunny weather, visiting the many Canal Days venues. such as the Port Colborne

Historical and Marine Museum that provide the city with its small-town charm.

"Visitors can't believe how a city of this size hosts so many people," Badawey said, praising the community for another successful year.

"Port Colborne, take a bow for pulling together to

do this." Close to 400 volunteers offered their time to help

make the festival a success. "Year after year, the com-

munity depends on volunteers to help showcase the city," Badawey said, adding everyone who helps does so with great pride.

Each year, the festival helps open the eyes of visitors to the different activities and amenities Port Colborne and Niagara have to offer, Badawey said.

see CELEBRATION | page 2



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo









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'It was a great experience'

For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE - For some, it's a chance to embark on new territory and for others, it's a familiar sight.

Each summer the Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival brings thousands of people to Port Colborne to enjoy a variety of attractions along West St. and beyond, proving that there is something for

While some want to be in the heart of the action, others travel to see what the city has to offer, Gerry Duncan of Simcoe was visiting the festival for the first time this year following his sister-in-law's suggestion. He decided to make a day of it on Sunday, Sandy Gilbert

This is how it has grown. It's beautiful."

allowing time to see the car show and the tall shins. "It was a great experience.

This is a nice venue," he said. Colleen Roy is originally from Port Colborne and has been coming to the festival for as long as she can remember. Though now living in Niagara Falls, she and Rich Roy still attend and frequent the concerts and fireworks

displays while enjoying the local food "It's well worth it." Rich Roy said of their annual visits to

Port Colborne For those closer to the festivities, the novelty doesn't

seem to have worn off. Mike Courtemanche of Welland said he has been coming to Canal Days for 10 years.

"It's been a good weekend," he said of the nice weather Port Colborne had over the course of the four-day festival. He enjoys coming down to West St. and being in the city because of the sense of familiarity. Canal Days gives Courtemanche the opportunity to connect with old friends and enjoy the

atmosphere. Sandy and Bob Gilbert have fond memories of Canal Days. The Port Colborne residents have been a part of the festival since its early days. Sandy Gilbert said the pair helped with children's activities at the museum before the event held its current namesake.

"This is how it has grown. It's beautiful," she said of the event's development.

The Gilberts arrived on West St. on Sunday afternoon to secure prime seats for the night's fireworks. They have been known to set up chairs well in advance and were congregating with about 30 of their friends and family this

year to watch the display. "The fireworks are just fabulous," said Sandy Gilbert, adding the fireworks seem to get bigger and bigger every

Sunday fireworks attract large crowd

CFI FRRATION

"Uncharted, unexpected - how right it is," he said of the city's new slogan, adding many people were pleasantly surprised while

experiencing the culture and character of Port Colborne. While there were many festival highlights, Badawey said the fireworks show Sunday night got much praise from both residents and visitors.

"We had close to 70,000 people watching along West

The car and kite shows at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park were also a hit with people of all ages, he added.

But overall, the star of the show was, as always, the Welland Canal, Badawey

said The tall ships and passing lakers drew much attention, he said, and brought to light the beauty of having a waterway run right through the city.

mfirth@wellandtribune.ca Twitter: @mfirthTribune



CANAL DAYS: Replica of 1812 warship wins battle for attention

Tall ship makes Port port of call

LINDSAY COSTELLO For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE - It was all hands on deck Friday as the U.S. Brig Niagara made its way to the lakeside city for the 33rd annual Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival.

Offering daily deck tours beginning on Saturday morning, the tall ship's crew was hard at work ensuring the vessel was in tip-top shape for the event. With a crew of 41 members, the replica 19th century warship remained docked throughout the weekend to give the public a glimpse of daily life on the

"This ship is very much period accurate," said chief mate Billy Sabatini, adding the U.S. Brig Niagara has an authentic feel

He said the vessel is unique in a sense that it is the largest of its kind to be steered by a tiller rather than a wheel, While the tiller is considered a modern form of steering, the ship's crew goes without modern amenities, having to sleep in hammocks and

prepare meals using a wood

"As far as tall ships go, this is one of the most prestigious in the country, if not the world," said Michael Pierson. an able-bodied seaman who has worked on the ship for seven months.

Pierson's responsibilities include co-ordinating and working with the crew to ensure all procedures are followed and well-executed

As far as tall ships go, this is one of the most prestigious in the

country, if not the world."

Michael Pierson, seaman

Beyond the daily cleaning and domestic duties, the crew must also conduct safety checks. Sail handling and navigation are top priorities and there is plenty of work to he done at all times to ensure smooth sailing.



Kyle Packer, an apprentice on the U.S. Brig Niagara, climbs up on the ship's rigging to secure the sails of the replica war ship that docked in Port Colborne for deck tours during Canal Days.

In addition to its regular crew, the vessel also holds a group of post-secondary students, including students from Niagara University, who in addition to conducting scientific research will participate in the ship's daily activities.

An on-board professor teaches them as they explore lakes and learn about water quality and geology. Following their three-week stay on the ship, students receive three

university credits. Based in Erie. Pa., the U.S. Brig Niagara visited Canal Days in 2009 where Sabatini said it drew in more than 3.000 visitors each day.

Following this year's stay in Port Colborne, the vessel is headed to Chicago. Sabantini said the tall ship

received a positive public response during this year's visit and that he enjoys the atmosphere when he visits

LINDSAY COSTELLO Tribune Photo

Port Colborne "I absolutely love Canal Days," he said. "It is so much

portraits

COOL BREEZE



The Niagara Windriders took advantage of the lakeside breeze during the Canal Days Kite Festival at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park on Sunday.



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo Scott Clapp watches on as Evan Porter and Teighan Clapp try to capture a prize at the Canal Days midway.



LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Photo Canadian rockers Finger Eleven headlined Saturday's market square concert lineup, following Whale Tooth and Bleeker Ridge. Pictured is Finger Eleven rhythm guitarist Rick Jackett.



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Volunteer Nancy Sloan officially opens the Wrecks and Relics exhibit at Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum on Saturday alongside St. Catharines Museum curator Kathleen Powell and Port Colborne museum assistant curator Michelle Mason. The St. Catharines Museum provided an antique diver's helmet and suit on loan for the display.

I'VE BEEN THIKING

INPORTANEWS About caring for God's Creation

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Ken Koyama, publisher, general manager Dave Johnson, Inport News senior reporter



■OUrview

about 20%.

It's expensive to live

I thas been nearly three years since the start of a major recession that gripped the world economy. Massive job losses, foreclosures on homes and nations facing financial crises were the norm

Fortunately, recovery has begun, although some countries like Greece and Ireland continue to struggle Canada's economy, which fared better than others during the worst of the downturn, has improved.

But the ripple effects of such a devastating blow are still And many hurdles remain for those struggling to get by.

Bottom line is, it's getting more expensive to live. Food prices are on the rise. In 2009, food prices increased by 4.9% compared with the core inflation rate of 0.3%, says the Canadian Council on Social Development. The council reported the price of 13 basic dietary staples rose by more than 10% between December 2007 and December 2009. The cost of baby food increased by

Filling up at the gas pumps is a lot more expensive, with fuel prices rising by about 20 cents a litre in recent And the cost of utilities has steadily increased.

Couple that with more good-paying jobs being shipped to countries with cheaper labour costs and it's the perfect storm for increased poverty rates. A Statistics Canada survey released last week showed

9.6% of Canadians lived in poverty in 2009. Sadly, in 2011, that number is likely much higher in Niagara

Food bank use across the country has reached its highest level on record. Food banks in Welland, Port Colborne and Pelham have

benefited greatly from the public's generosity over the past several years as they cope with the growing number But the need is still great.

It is imperative that we all play a role in keeping the shelves stocked and families fed.

Governments and agencies must take the lead in helping those in need. But this is a community problem that requires a community response.

PASTOR GORD ABRAHAM Port Colborne Baptist Church

bo cares about the Creation anyway? Now when it comes to God's Creation (erroneously called environment). some folks have been mislead by a two-fold view of life. The first error is that we are just spiritual beings and what happens to our bodies does not matter. The second comes out of that and says, that progress must continue at any cost even to the detriment of human wellbeing and the Creation itself. From this faulty worldview comes the faulty idea that humans are above and beyond the Creation and that they are not responsible for the drastic changes we see in our environment and natural world (Creation), Some in our Christian circles have said that it does not really matter what we do because Jesus is coming back soon and everything is going to be burned up or changed by God. This divided thinking denies the command of the Bible to treat the material world as stewards The first book, Genesis, makes it clear that we humans are entrusted by God to care for and use the gift of our created world and all things in it for the good of all, the glory of the Creator God and as a reminder that He rules and will rule

over all the universe as King. The false teaching of separating the material and spiritual part of being human crent into the earlier church and now rises to the surface in our time. It is not how the Hebrews (Iews) and early Christians saw the makeun of human beings, created in God's image. All through the Scriptures we read that we matter to God and were created by God, as whole beings both material and spiritual, God sent His own son, Jesus in human flesh, When God raised Jesus from out of death by crucifixion He promised to all who have a faith relationship with him that they too would be raised after death in a new body like that of Jesus. This body will be a spiritual and material body like but not like our present body. (1 Corinthians 15:35-49)

Let me share what I think what we as Christians should believe and how we should live. I believe that every Christian should come to realize that God made this Creation to be His and that He wants all to come back to live in relationship with Him through bis Son. Jesus (see John 3:16-17). We are also called to manage the Creation properly as a sacred trust. He is committed to His Creation and all Creation is groaning waiting to be reborn. When He sends His Son Jesus back, all Creation will join with the children of God in the

final liberation from death, decay and despair, (see Romans 8:18-25) I do not believe that we are free to

waste the resources God has put under our stewardship as humans nor as Christians in our personal lives and church communities.

We must begin to take stock of how we live, eat, travel, and use up the resources we have and begin to live a lifestyle that makes re-using our resources a way of life. We need to begin to learn and practice how we can re-use and not just use up and throw anything away. We must stop thinking and living with an out of sight and out of mind mentality.

We bave done this far too long and it is time that we begin to think and live differently. Many are and that is commendable. More are welcome.

We can talk all we want about the need for renewal of our spirits but then go and live as if the Creation is something detached and irrelevant to our spirit. We are whole people living in a whole Creation that is inter-connected and must be managed as God's property entrusted to us

Yes, I do believe that we need Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour and that as people newly related to God by faith in His Son Jesus, live lives reflecting what the old hymn says, This is My Father's World.

■readers'views

The \$50,000 payout

It's official. The price to betray friends, neighbours, even family and the community you live in is \$50,000. This was confirmed by representatives of the company calling itself the Niagara Region Wind Corporation at the public meeting held in Smithville the other evening

Their money men had it all worked out. As the company with the provincial government's approval to build the biggest industrial wind turbine development in Ontario, the huge government guaranteed profits were more than enough for them to tout their contacts and business in secrecy and offer \$50,000 to landowners to site industrial wind turbines on their land.

Only two months ago few, if anyone in Wainfleet, had even heard of the Niagara Region Wind Corporation and even today many are still unaware that this company intend to site up to 20, possibly more. industrial wind turbines in the townshin

Those who have known about this project for months now, or even years, have already signed their contracts. No openness and transparency there. No interest in any concerns from others in their communities. Difficult to agree with the idea that 'You can't blame them for taking the money. Amonest the more memorable com-

ment from the NRWC 'experts,' 'It's Green Four hundred foot high towers made

of steel ('Green' steel?) with 2,000 tons of concrete to support each one ('Green' concrete?) Turbine blades made from resins produced from fossil fuel by products ('Green' blades?). Lubricating oils, electric wiring and components, trace elements including one mined in China that is causing wide spread pollution and contamination and deaths where it is mined (all 'Green') More comments: The electrical

'experts' have no clue what percentage of the rated 230 mega watts capacity they promise they can actually deliver at any given time. No wind is easy, it's 0 mega watts. No power.

Same 'expert,' but \$50,000 per turbine is easy money, easier than growing crops. When asked if he worried about any food sbortage he dismissed the idea with, 'There's plenty of food.' All of these huge profits that make

\$50,000 payouts only small change to be paid for by you, the taxpayer. The other thing they don't tell you? You haven't actually begun to pay those extra taxes And saddest of all. Should these

machines go up and the switches flipped it will all be too late, even for those who chose to deal behind closed doors. Negative health effects and devaluation of property can and will affect anyone in our community. Those counting their \$50,000 aren't immune.

Andrew Watts Wainfleet

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■ COLUMN

Neglected roads receiving much needed TLC

is the season for roadwork, and this year Wainfleet council opted to attend to the many neglected roads in the Lakeshore area as well as a few projects to the North. While this may not be the most glamorous topic for a mayor's column, I feel it's worth noting the numerous roads are in the midst of either being completely redone or resurfaced accompanied by a brief technical explanation.

Wainfleet has approximately 500 lane kilometres of roads within the Township borders, with about half being paved and half gravel. Paving doesn't always equal asphalt as most of our payed roads have had a tar and chip surface treatment applied to them. Many years back NiagaraRegion downloaded Golf Course Road to the municipality. This particular roadway was treated with a hot mix asphalt at one time however this year a layer of tar and chip was applied with the intention of



preserving the road for another five to eight years. Typically a "tar and chip" application consists of tar with a layer of gravel on top. Within a few days and up to two weeks the gravel sinks into the tar and creates a hard surface. A second layer of gravel may be applied the following year. There may be some loose gravel and dust for the first few days. It definitely is an inconvenience for the first little while, but the long term benefits of a newly surfaced road are well

Unfortunately, the treatment of Golf Course Road was not well received by some residents. Staff along with council have been working to address their concerns. Heavy rains affected the application on the west lane and our

public works committee along with the contractor will be inspecting the site to determine whether patchwork and repairs will he needed. Loose gravel lines both sides of the road which makes the road seem narrower and also generates some dust. Staff will be sweeping this stone in the next couple of weeks.

As mentioned, the Township has numerous gravel roads. Gravel most definitely equals dust, especially in the summer months which are typically dry like we are currently experiencing. But fear not, the public works denartment applies a chemical called calcium

chloride in late spring or early summer. It is always difficult to determine the best time to apply dust control chemicals because if they are applied too soon they may wear off before summer is over. If they are applied too late we may have to put up with some dust in the period before the roads receive the application. Once applied, this is a very effective tool

for dust suppression. Of course there is other worked performed throughout the summer to maintain our lengthy roads. Staff continues to patch roads on a regular basis as well as tree maintenance. road side mowing.

FRONT END

ditching and any needed culvert installations or repairs. Overall road maintenance is ongoing with such a short window in the summer months to complete all that needs to be accomplished.

As with drainage, I have had a crash course in road resurfacing this Spring and have a much deeper appreciation of the importance of road maintenance - namely how crucial the timing of such projects are. During our budget deliberations this winter the need for a Roads Needs Study was proposed to council which would address the priority of repairing and resurfacing

each road in the Township. While there is some value to such a study. council opted not to hire a consultant for two reasons - council felt that staff were well equipped to prioritize road projects and most tenders for consultants are typically not well-received by the community. Again, there can be value in hiring

consultants in areas where

in-house, but I'll save that

the municipality does

not have the expertise

for a future column.

Editor's note: Due to an editing error, the wrong photo was used with Mayor April Jeffs column from last week. We apologize for the error.



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MECHANICAL SERVICES AVAILABLE

Wrecks and Relics surfaces at museum

MARYANNE FIRTH InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE -While much of this weekend's focus was on this city's beautiful waterway, Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum celebrated that which lies beneath the

The new Wrecks and Relics exhibit was officially opened on Saturday as part of the Canal Days festival, unveiling to the public the story of The Raleigh, a ship that now sits off Port Colborne's shore after sinking in Lake Erie in 1911.

The exhibit, which is on display in the museum's lighthouse, includes various artifacts from the ship that have

been salvaged over time. It was Nov. 30, 1911 when the 235-foot (72 metres) wooden steamer met its fate. Three people, including the cook, his wife and the ship's chief engineer, were killed.

Though divers are now under strict regulations to leave shipwrecks untouched. this was not always the case. said Michelle Mason, the museum's assistant curator. Items have been collected from the wreck over the years, prior to the new laws coming into effect, she said.

Included in the display are items such as lanterns, a wheel and chain as well as an antique diver's helmet and suit that is on loan from the St. Catharines Museum. There are several underwater photos of The Raleigh for people to see.

The ship sits only a few kilometres from Sherkston in roughly 10 metres of water. Mason said

Along with the display in the lighthouse, visitors can have a look at the wreck's 900-kilogram anchor that sits on the museum grounds The exhibit will be featured at the museum until the end

of the year.



at the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum on Saturday.

MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo Anna Chandler, president of the Niagara Handweavers and Spinners, performs a demonstration

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Visitors take helm of ship

CANAL DAYS

simulator MARYANNE FIRTH InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - It was a job that Jacob and Benjamin Shirton handled with ease

Though the brothers had never been at the helm of a ship before, they managed to manoeuvre it carefully through the locks of the Welland Canal.

But that wasn't without direction from Peter Buell, director of the Georgian College Great Lakes International Marine Training Centre, Buell was at the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum this weekend, where he allowed visitors to take the wheel of a ship simulator and attempt

to stay on course. The common response from visitors was that it's "not as easy as it looks" from ashore, he said with a laugh adding it takes a great deal of training to learn how to properly manoeuvre the large

The ship simulator was one of many attractions and activities hosted by the museum over the weekend as part of Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival. Thousands of visitors toured the museum grounds and had the opportunity to operate remotecontrolled model boats, sign a War of 1812 proclamation with quill and ink, enjoy tea in Arabella's Tea Room, watch a professional town crier demonstration, dress in historical clothing and witness re-enactments by the 1st Lincoln Militia "This is our little oasis."

assistant curator Michelle Mason said of the museum. "There's something for

everyone here - kids, grandparents, parents." And it's all run by volunteers. Mason estimates about

120 volunteers came out to assist the museum throughout the weekend.





MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo Ernest the Magnifico, otherwise known as Julian Bell, performs a pogo stick stunt for a growing

Buskers keep crowds entertained ence as each busker broke out tricks, stunts and, most impor-

tantly, jokes to keep the crowd

It was Julian Bell's first time

in Port Colborne. But regard-

less of whether he is at home

in Australia or touring in

Canada, his alter ego, Ernest

the Magnifico, certainly knows

how to command attention.

crowd on West St. during Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival.

MARYANNE FIRTH InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - They make you laugh, They keep you on the edge of your nonexistent seat and, most of all, they entertain.

Street performers found along West St. were one of the many highlights of this weekend's Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival, Some juggled, some rode unicycles and some did both simultaneously while ensuring all eyes were

Oohs and ahhs could be heard from crowds who gathered for impromptu shows that broke out at various intersections along the roadway.

There were gasps of excitement, fits of laughter and plenty of cheers from the audiDressed in a bright red jumpsuit with a mullet-style brown wig and a drawn-on moustache, he was definitely hard to miss. The outlandish costume paired with his pogo stick

stunts and affinity for remotecontrol cars kept the crowd laughing throughout his 30-minute show

"Showmanship is the real skill," he told The Tribune following his performance.

tricks, such as juggling, does take hard work, it's learning to drum up a crowd from passersby that is the real challenge. he said Bell has been a street performer for the past 10 years.

While learning special

He said he enjoys bringing the art of busking to new crowds and is always hoping to show people the hard work that goes into each show. Torontonian Ben Burland is also no stranger to street

performing. He brought his act, The Ben Show, to West St. this weekend, revisiting Canal Days for the second time in four years. "You try to make people

like you," said the 31-year-old, who was able to quickly draw a crowd for one of his Saturday ■ CAR SHOW: More than 600 vehicles on display

Engines rev at Port park

MARYANNE FIRTH InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - Tall ships may have ruled the waterway this weekend, but classic cars and hot rods made their mark on land.

The Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival Car Chow drew more than 600 vehicles and thousands of spectators to H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park

on Sunday

Car enthusiasts and curious first-timers made their rounds at the annual event taking a peek at some of the beautifully-restored classics and souped-up hot rods that filled the nark Despite some rain early

on in the morning, the day turned out to be filled with sunshine, show chairman Terry Huffman said. "After a while you just pre-

pare for the worst and hope for the best. You're at the

mercy of the weather," he said, thankful Sunday's weather ended up being ideal.

It's been nearly two decades since the first Canal Days car show was held, Huffman said, recalling the lone six vehicles that attended the inaugural ovent

Huffman proudly acknowledged the significant growth the event has seen, and said it's a show people travel from beyond Niagara to attend. This year, more than 60 trophies and 80 door prizes were handed out to registrants. There's something for

everyone, no matter what their age, and it's an affordable day out for families, Huffman said. There is no admission charge, though visitors are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for Port Cares. Tim Wright of Port

Colborne travels to car shows across Ontario. Despite his

experiences throughout the province. Wright still ranks his hometown's event as "one of the best."

He was at the show Sunday with grandson Aiden Ferrusi, who eagerly helped his "papa" clean the '72 Chevelle the pair arrived in

"He just loves the cars," Wright said of his grandson. pleased to be able to share his passion with the next generation.

Bill Gibson also gets a kick out of sharing his love for vehicles with others. The Fonthill resident encouraged passersby to hop up into the driver's seat of his one-of-akind, custom-made, threewheel motorcycle. It's something people don't

often get to do at shows, he said, thrilled to be able to offer that experience to visitors.

mfirth@wellandtribune.ca Twitter: @mfirthTribune



More than 600 vehicles packed H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park on Sunday for the annual Canal Days

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Paying attention to small business

InPort News Staff PORT COLBORNE -

PC candidate in the Welland

riding, about what the party's

Change Book can do for small

strong and modern economy.

businesses in the province.

wants to help

want to give owners Ontario small businesses opportunineed a helping hand and the ties that will Progressive Conservative party allow them to conduct Last week, Oxford MPP Ernie husiness in Hardeman visited Snider Dock a way that Services in Port Colborne to allows them meet with Dominic Ursini, the

as well We

to provide

for their families," Ursini said.

What happens "Small businesses are a when you don't source not only of jobs and opportunity, but also the innodo your work? You get vation, hard work and riskfired. We believe it taking that are essential to a should be the same in

Dominic Ursini

The Tories, he said, want

to do this by giving business

owners, like the Sniders, five

key promises. They have com-

mitted to reducing regulatory

paper work by 30% during

Ursini said a Conservative

government would create a

minister to oversee the imple-

mentation of new systems to

their term in office.

Hardeman said. "A Tim Hudak government government."

will be the best partner small business ever had," he said. Ursini said 74,000 Ontario jobs lost in recession have not been restored. With its Small Business Bill of Rights a PC government will help small businesses not only survive, but thrive and hire more Ontario workers, he added.

"Small business owners rep resent Ontario families struggling to pay bills and some struggling to keep their homes reduce red tape with stiff deadlines. If those deadlines are not met, the premier and cabinet ministers would be docked pay. "What happens when you don't do your work? You get fired. We believe it should be

the same in government," he Ken Snider, president of Snider Dock Services, said he spends much time trying to

cut through government red tape when he could be doing something for his business. "It will help us save money and be more efficient," he said. "And it helps us make money

by getting on to the important things in business The Tories, Ursini said, want to give small businesses fast, friendly customer service and a greater ability to bid on government contracts. They plan to help small businesses compete with larger businesses by

levelling the playing field. They also want to give small business owners a voice in any new legislation or regulation

that affects the economy "I will work with (small businesses) to make sure they are the best they can be and to make our riding the best it can be," Ursini said

Ferocious Mothers needed to pay tribute

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE -This year's Terry Fox Run in Port Colborne will focus on recruiting teams to take part in the annual event. Organizer Nancy Salvage and run co-organizer Lee

McKinnon started thinking about the idea after the death of Betty Fox. Terry's mother, last month. The two are looking to put together a team called Ferocious Mothers, in

honour of Betty Fox, for the run on Sunday, Sept. 18, at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park. "The word (ferocious) was used to describe her and I liked it. I thought Ferocious Mothers would be a good name for a team."

Salvage said anyone can oin the team - they don't have to be a mother or even o women "We're inviting people

to form a tribute team or

with You!

survivors team and take part in the

TERRY FOX RUN: Focus of event is recruitment of teams

walk/run. We want to pay tribute to Betty." T h

hope is once teams

are formed, they'll take part annually in the run/walk, which to date, through the Terry Fox Foundation, has raised more than \$500 million for cancer research Salvage said 85 cents of

every dollar raised across Canada goes into research and the fight against cancer. In Ontario, that figure is actually 90 cents on every

"The foundation tries to keep administration costs as low as it can. There are only 30 people across Canada that work for the foundation. Volunteers are key to the

foundation's success, said

"It's very grassroots and doesn't rely on corporate sponsorship ... you won't see cornoration names on the backs of T-shirts. The foundation is one of the world's standards for

The Terry Fox Run has spread to 30 nations.

including China where one was started in 2004. The first run there had 25 people and was started by Isadore Sharp, chairman and CEO of Four Seasons Hotels. The following year the run grew and today has thousands of people taking part in it.

As part of the run in Port Colborne, Salvage said, the head shave event will be taking place again, Last year, 57 people took part in the head shave and helped set a Guinness World Record for multi-person simultaneous head shave at an event.

While not looking to set any new records this year, Salvage said people are more than welcome to come out and take part in the por-

tion of the run/walk. "We have people who do it every year."

People don't have to preregister for the head shave and there is no registration fee for it. They can take part whether or not they raise funds or pledges.

"It's all inclusive." For more information on

the Terry Fox Run, contact Salvage at 905-835-0442 or e-mail nancy. salvage@ sympatico.ca.





Patient services improving in Port Colborne

MARYANNE FIRTH InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE -Change is afoot for Port Colborne's health-care

Renovations to Port Colborne's urgent care centre are moving forward and so are plans to implement a pilot project that will improve the delivery of health care in the lakeside city

The renovations, estimated to cost between \$1, 5 million and \$2 million, will see the department relocated to the main floor of the hospital, with its current space freed up for additional health-care services. Tenders have been sent out to pre-qualify general contractors and the project is expected to be "moving forward in an immediate time frame," said Mayor Vance Badawey Bridges Community Health

Centre will be moving from the hospital to its permanent

site on King St. this fall, where it will offer more programs to address needs of clients, he

Port Colborne is also embarking on a pilot program, in partnership with the Niagara Regional Campus of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine, that will give citizens with a family physician in the city "access to a basket of services regardless of

the model of reimbursement

their physician participates in," Badawey said. "This virtual family health team has caught the attention of many in the medical community, as legislators grapple with a health-care system that is fiscally challenged."

By establishing a teaching facility, the hope is to re-establish and enhance services at the hospital site, he said.

As part of the recently created Niagara Health System hospital improvement plan tripartite committee - estab-

erence for the independent third-party evaluation of the implemented phases of the HIP - Badawey is confident

vices for all Niagarans, he said. hired as the pilot project physician lead and will work with the project's stakeholder group for one year. Remington, who will continue his practice in the community, will begin the process of bringing in new allied

health services into the city. Port Colborne's Dr. Amanda medical school curriculum at the Niagara campus from the

what he calls flaws in the HIP will be recognized and fixed This, along with the virtual health team, will result in equitable access to health-care ser-Dr. Jeff Remington been

Bell will also be taking on a new role as pre-clerkship coordinator for the DeGroote Niagara campus. Bell, who will be continuing ber practice, will work to organize, co-ordinate and oversee the

■ SOCIAL AGENCIES: Review of social assistance underway Stories of daily struggles needed for review IOF BARKOVICH Doing so is relatively easy, we're up to the challenge," she

InPort News Staff

WELLAND - Social help agencies in Port Colborne and Welland are seeking public input or the Ontario Social Assistance Review now underway

Lori Kleinsmith, a health promoter with Bridges Community Health Centre in Port Colborne, said the initiative is being done to "continue the conversation" that started at a poverty reduction meeting in Niagara Falls attended by review commissioners Frances Lankin and Munir Sheikh. That meeting was held July 5.

Kleinsmith said the process is important because there has not been a review of Ontario's social assistance in "well over a decade." The last took place

"If the system isn't working, now's the time to tell people it isn't working and what could be done to fix it," said Kleinsmith. "We want to create that opportunity so people know the social assistance review is here and secondly so that they can provide input."

Kleinsmith said.

Social assistance recipients social service and health-care providers and other sectors such as faith communities, business and local government can send suggestions to the commissioners via the review's website, www.socialassistancereview.ca

But opportunities for personal "story sharing" also are available with Bridges staff, said Kleinsmith.

*Sometimes people like to talk about these things over a cup of coffee," she said. Interviews have been taking place at the two Bridges locations, Port Colborne and Fort

Faith communities active in social justice issues and causes also are welcome to send studies or comments based on their

experiences 'and we'll combine it with what we're sending in." But time is of the essence, said Kleinsmith. The deadline for submissions to Bridges is Aug. 12. The deadline for submissions direct to the commis-

sioners is Sent. 1. "It's a bit of a challenge but

Pat Kemp, executive director of Welland's Hope Centre, said a similar process is underway in Welland. Clients and others have been interviewed by Community Legal Services staff and staff at Hone Centre. Kemp also attended the Niagara Falls poverty reduction meeting and others that were held subsequently. She sees the process as key to effecting change in Ontario's social assistance system.

"The commissioners have been going around to social assistance hot spots in particular. It's like a travelling road show and wherever they go, they're asking for input because now is the time to say what you have to say."

The commissioners intend to have their final report available in June 2012, with an interim report expected by the end of this year.

The contact number for Bridges Community Health Centre (Port Colborne) is 289-479-5017. The contact number for Hope Centre is 905-788start of clerkship This virtual family health team will ... ensure that our cal education program has

already highly regarded medi-

tinue to successfully recruit health care professionals to Port Colborne," Badawey said. The hope is that the project will encourage medical learn-

up practice, he added. Port Colborne will host the incoming Class of 2014 faculty of medicine learners on Sept. 16 for an orientation dinner.



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Hepatitis C clinic at New Port Centre

InPort News Staff PORT COLBORNE - A new

clinic at the New Port Centre can help people who need testing, treatment and support vides physician support. for Hepatitis C. Services offered at this clinic include treatment for Hepatitis C infection, case management and individual and group

counselling, Niagara Health System said in a release. Staff includes a clinic coordinator, a nurse practitioner, a social worker and an outreach worker. Dr. Craig Kuhn pro-

"This clinic will improve access in Niagara to this needed service and support," said David Barry, NHS manager of outpatient addiction and withdrawal management services

"Many people infected with the hepatitis C virus can be treated successfully with therapeutic drugs. The support services we are providing will give people the support they need to complete treatment or manage their condition if they

are unable to be treated due to their health or to treatment eide_offects*

A grand opening for the new clinic, which also has a satellite clinic in St. Catharines, was held at the centre beside Port Colborne hospital last week. The Hepatitis C clinic is one of 13 new programs funded by the Ministry of Health and

Long-Term Care, Hepatitis C Secretariat

Patients can be referred to the clinic by their family physician, the region's public health unit, and community health centres. Individuals who know they have Hepatitis C or believe they are at risk of infection may also self-refer by contacting 905-378-2627 ext. 32554.

It is estimated 5,500 people in Niagara have Hepatitis C. which is spread through contact with the blood of an infected person. Most people do not experience symptoms when they first become infected, and symptoms may not appear until 10 or 20 years later when the disease has

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INPORT NEWS FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 2011

■ WATER FILLING STATION: New location needed

Two wheels have it over four Where to fill up?

DAVE JOHNSON InPort News Staff

12

CAYUGA - Rich Christensen had his eve on two motorcycles putting in consistent runs during each pass at Amrdrop Live qualifving Saturday afternoon at

Toronto Motorsports Park. Christensen, host of the now-cancelled TV show Pinks, thought either one could take home the \$10,000 top prize at the one-day event, the only show he's running live this year.

In the end it was Toronto's Spiro Spanos on his Suzuki Hayabusa, a GSX1300R, who took the final win light at the top end of the 1/4-mile drag strip and took home the cash "I really had my eye on him

(Spanos) all day. He was so consistent and so fast. He was always tucked in, had his line ... he's just a great racer, Christensen said.

As time trials went on, and the field of 140 cars, trucks, motorcycles and snowmobiles was trimmed down to 64 to compete for the top two spots, the two bikes, stayed consistent.

■ DRAG RACING: Suzuki motorcycle edges late-'60s-style Mustang for \$10,000 first prize

"I kept asking Brian (Bossone) if the bikes were picking up speed ... they weren't," Christensen said.

When the field of racers came down to the final two. it was bike-versus-car versus car. Spanos was facing a late-'60s Mustang and, thanks to a good coin toss, it was a besttwo-out-of-three, hot-lap final. The hot-lap race meant each racer would make a run down the track, come back to the starting lane and make another run right away. There would be no time to make adjustments, add fuel or even

cool down, other than cooling down on the trip back to the starting line Christensen Hot laps are hard on cars as they tend to



DAVE JOHNSON Stoff Photo

Spiro Spanos, on his Suzuki Havabusa (a GSX1300R), does a burnout after winning the Armdrop Live race at Toronto Motorsports Park in Cayuga Saturday. Spanos won \$10,000 after taking two out of three races against a Mustang

overheat; they're not easy on bikes either. So while it looked good for Spanos, who took the first race, to take the best two out of three on his bike, the 32-year-old had a problem no one in the crowd was aware of.

go. That's what happens when you run a bike set up like that and you hot lap them. You keep running them and the clutch can give out, I remember it happening on Pinks," said Christensen, adding that when the clutch was starting to go. Spanos wasn't as consistent on his starts

"His clutch was starting to

The drama of the bike losing its clutch and the car overheating made for "a great story."

When the two lined up for a second time on the starting line, Spanos, who was running the 14-mile in about 9.9 seconds, got a jump on the Mustang and crossed the finish line by a very close

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - When looking out the windows of the aquatics area at the new health and wellness centre. the last sight the city wants swimmers to see is a stream of water hauling trucks.

To ensure it's not a sight for sore eyes, council has decided to move its east-end bulk water filling station though its new location is still up in the air.

While staff brought forward a recommendation last week to keep the station on a different part of the sports complex property, it was ultimately defeated by council in a tied recorded vote.

Staff looked at a number of city-owned properties and ultimately determined the sports complex property, just south of the centre itself, would be most fitting. said Ron Hanson, the city's director of engineering and operations.

Many sites were disqualified from use because the demand required for the bulk water station far exceeded the supply the watermain could provide without causing issues for businesses and

residents, he added Council approved \$300,000 for the relocation of the station during its 2011 water

and sewer budget deliberations. Placing the station on

www.inportnews.ca

the sports complex property is estimated to cost \$290,000. "Why wasn't this on the site plan for the new arena?"

asked Ward 1 Coun. Dave Elliott, who felt if it was kent on the property, it should have been included in the new centre's budget.

"We're getting the ratepayers to pay for something they have no interest in." Elliott

"Council made that decision and we're proceeding on that basis," Hanson said. The facility, he added, "had to be upgraded and that would be part of the water-wastewater budget."



Ward 1 Coun. Dave Elliott

The recommended area on the complex site - only 214 metres from the existing station - has been cleared for park dedication, said Mayor Vance Badawey.

He could not support the proposed location as he has received many comments from people looking forward to utilizing the park space once the health and wellness centre is completed.

The station will only have a "small impact on a big wood lot." Hanson said, adding with a little landscaping it will just look like a separate crescentshaped driveway.

Ward 4 Couns, Ron Bodner and Barbara Butters and Ward 3 Coun. Bea Kenny voted in favour of having the station on the sports complex property. Badawey, Elliott and Ward

3 Coun, Frank Danch voted in opposition and the motion

Ward 2 Couns. Angle Desmarais and Yvon Doucet, as well as Ward 1 Coun. Bill Steele were absent from the

With the location going unapproved, staff will return with another report featuring additional options such as purchasing an appropriate piece of property where the station can be relocated

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■ SAFETY: Children cross in front of cars leaving school

A.K. Wigg parents worry about location of traffic signal crosswalk

WAYNE CAMPBELL InPort News Staff

PELHAM - A new Haist St. traffic signal at A.K. Wigg public school is working "quite well", says the crossing guard who deals with it daily. But Violet Steingart understands the concerns of par-

ents who find it awkward. Some of them say it's dangerous because of its location near the school's exist driveway.

The pedestrian-operated traffic signal went into use two weeks before the end of school. "For the parents, it will take

some getting used to," said Streingart, who has guided students across Haist St. for 12 years Since the light went into

operation, a couple of drivers have gone through it and others have been taken by surprise when they came upon. But for a new traffic signal, that's expected, she said.

Monika Brint, a parent and Haist St. resident, said the traffic signal was put in the wrong spot when compared with the original blueprints.

A.K. Wigg students, she said, are trained when they leave the elementary school to walk along a painted walkway at the north fence beside the school's driveway to reach the crossing guard. With the crosswalk moved to the south they must cross in front of traffic in the outgoing driveway.

She's watched children do

"I've seen their hesitation and the fear in their faces as they attempt to cross in front of the outcoming cars trusting they don't get hit."

Drivers leaving the school can't see whether the light is red or green because it is too

> Children with impaired eye

sight are often

unaware of

their

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high above them Brint said the signals should be placed farther north, where a stopline is

now painted. The relocation of the light can be done now during the summer vacation period, before students return to school

Steingart said there is a concern with the location of the walkway from the school's entrance to the street now that the new crosswalk is in different place. She has pointed it out to the principal.

It's a matter for the parents, the parents council and school staff to discuss and

work out, she suggested. "Perhaps they could put a path down the middle of the grassed area (in the middle of driveway crescent) lining up with the crosswalk.

Meanwhile, the crossing guard is concerned about the speed of traffic going up and down Haist St now that it is paved. No longer do cars have to slow down for construction equipment and unfinished roads as they've had to for almost two years "I hope the raised crosswalks will slow the speeds."

she said. Through the summer, road construction crews will install raised crosswalks along Haist

One of them will complete the A. K. Wigg crosswalk. The raised walkway will be even with the sidewalks on both sides of the road. The walkway will be flat to accommodate strollers and wheelchairs.

Steingart said a raised walkway will increase crosswalk's profile and hopefully slow down drivers.

During the two weeks before the end of school, the students enjoyed the new traffic signal and learned how to use the pedestrian control

"I had lots of helpers to press the button, they ran to do it," she laughed. "And the little ones learned to wait for the walking man signal." Mayor Dave Augustyn said the crosswalk conforms with

the construction diagrams. "If the crosswalk was installed further to the north

in line with the sidewalk on A.K. Wigg property then it would have to go directly through the entrance of the parking lot for Kirk-on-the-

Hill church," he said. "The only change that will be made is that the crosswalk will be actually installed: once the top coat of asphalt is added to Haist the contractor

will cut the asphalt and pour the raised crosswalk." Brint believes a mistake has been made. "It's a mess, a very danger-

ous situation. If the traffic signal stays she hopes it will not result in a child being hurt or worse. "The town will be held

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo Parent Monika Brint said the traffic lights and crosswalk at A.K. Wigg Public School were put in the wrong place. It creates

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Minor hockey players urged to dream big

LINDSAY COSTELLO For InPort News

14

PORT COLBORNE -Bruins pride was evident at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park on Saturday as the Lakeside City welcomed the Stanley Cup.

Former NHL player and Boston Bruins scout Adam Creighton brought the trophy to the park's bandshell for his day with the Cup and greeted a crowd of fans who were eager to get a first-hand look.

Prior to a photo session in which fans could meet Creighton and pose with the Stanley Cup, the Welland Minor Hockey Association graduate gave a special shout out to local athletes attending

"I'd like to congratulate the champion teams here. Don't ever give up the dream and think it won't happen," he said of the Port Colborne Minor Hockey Association players who shared the stage with

Ward 1 Coun. Bill Steele, who is president of the Port Colborne Minor Hockey Association, helped to organize the Cup's visit and introduced Creighton to the crowd. Steele noted his accomplishments and involvement in the league, highlighting his more than 600 games played throughout his 14-year career. Steele also pointed out Creighton,

a Burlington native makes his home in Port Colborne, was responsible for bringing Welland's Dan Paille and Dunnville's Nathan Horton on board, players whom Steele said were instrumental in helping the Bruins upset the Vancouver Canucks in a seven

game final for their first NHL championship since 1972. The Cup was flown into the Welland airport from Tillsonburg and while in Port Colborne, travelled through the canal before arriving at the park via fire truck at 5 p.m.

Saturday marked the Stanley Cup's third visit to the area in a matter of weeks. having visited Dunnville with Horton on Sunday, July 17, and Welland with Paille last Wednesday. "I like the idea that we've

congratulate the champion teams here. Don't ever give up the dream and think it won't

happen." Boston Bruins scout Adam Creighton

had the cup come to our area three times," said Alice Ferris, who was lined up at 8 a.m. in hopes of taking a photo with the sport's most coveted trophy

With her was Jean Gever who said that although she attended Cup festivities in Welland, she was seated far away from the trophy and was excited by the prospect of getting a closer look.

This is as close as I've ever gotten," said Niagara Falls resident Lloyd Blackmore who has been a fan of the Bruins for 42 years and had been waiting since 12:30 p.m. "Anything to see the Stanley



LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Photo

Boston Bruins recruiter and former NHL player Adam Creighton hoists the Stanley Cup in the air, displaying it to the crowd gathered at H.H. Knoll Park's band shell on Saturday afternoon.

■ PLEDGES: Inaugural fundraising event benefits Autism Ontario

Inaugural Canal Days Run raises funds for Autism Ontario

MARYANNE FIRTH InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE -The crowd cheered wildly as seven-year-old Lauren Collins crossed the finish

Pushed in her stroller by mother Stacev and father Brent, the young girl drew plenty of support from onlookers as she finished the inaugural Canal Days Run at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park. The Collins family, includ-

ing grandmother Sylvia who also participated, were proud to take on the event, which raised funds for the Niagara Chapter of Autism Ontario. The cause was near and dear to the hearts of several participants, including the Collins family, as many have relied on programs and services offered by the organization. Sylvia and co-worker Carrie McIntyre raised close to \$1,500 in pledges.

More than \$3,400 was raised in total from runners. and pledges, said Theresa Goulden, the chapter's resource co-ordinator. Funds will go toward programs and services at the organization. Goulden was thrilled with the turnout and thanked the 70 participants who came out to run or walk the five-kilometre route for the event's first year. More than 30 volunteers also helped to make

the day a success.

PORT COLBORNE MINOR HOCKEY 2011-2012 REGISTRATION Wednesday August 10 - Westside Arena 6 pm - 8 pm

Goulden said the run not only raises funds for the worthy cause, but also raises awareness of autism in the community. For David and Jennifer

Sharon, the day was an

opportunity to give back to an organization that has assisted them greatly. When the couple's twin boys Alex and Nick were diagnosed with autism, the family

turned to Autism Ontario for support. Just to know there's someone out there, to know you're not alone. It means a lot," Jennifer Sharon said follow-

management services, hopes to turn the run into an annual Both the top male and female finishers. Arnold

Demrah and Amanda McLeod, were from Port

"They gave us so much, it's

our turn to give back," her

Race director Adam Bunz,

of Down to the Wire event

husband added.



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weekly three-hour session on Tuesday mornings or Thursday afternoons at a cost of \$5 per session or \$25 for the whole summer. Register early as space is limited. Registration forms available in library or on the website, www. wainfleetlibrary.ca. Call the library at 905-899-1277 for more information.

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Wind action group to show documentary

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WEST LINCOLN - A documentary being shown about industrial wind turbines should help inform people about the wind debate, says an opponent of wind turbines in West Lincoln.

Neil Switzer, co-chair of the West Lincoln Wind Action Group (WLWAG), attended a meeting last week organized at Smithville District Christian High School by Niagara Region Wind Corp.

The meeting was to help explain the company's plan to bring a 230 megawatt wind generation project to Niagara.

Switzer said the company's consultants used a standard poster board, science fair type of display to inform people about the projects, which could see 70 to 80 wind turbines up to 20 metres, tall installed in West

The company is expected to invest approximately \$600 million in the project, which will be one of the largest in Canada

Switzer did say Niagara Region Wind Corp. appears to be trying to work with the public and the community more than other wind com-

panies have done. "They're looking to set a higher standard than the Green Energy Act calls for."

He said its officials seemed willing to consider protection against property devaluation caused by being in close proximity to the wind turbines. He said that across Ontario, many homes have been devalued, and 36 had been abandoned by owners because of the devaluation

He said Niagara Region Wind Corp. also seemed willing to consider both liability protection for those living

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near the turbines, as well as some type of performance hond to ensure that decommissioning would take place. Switzer noted that without that type of protection, the companies could simply walk away after the turbines had reached their useful life span. He said that some

wind farms in Hawaii and California had already been abandoned "Without that protection.

the company could just walk away," he said. While the Wind Action Group is upbeat about the company's stance, he said they are still opposing any industrial wind turbines in

West Lincoln He said under the Green Energy Act, the company must still hold two more public meetings. He's hoping to see something solid from Niagara Region Wind Corp.

"If they could release some

of their policies it would go a long way toward allaying the fear of the neighbours," he

The focus of WLWAG is on educating the public about wind turbines, he said.

Switzer said that research he has done indicates approximately 15% of people within the vicinity of wind turbines will experience some health problems as a

A project being undertaken by Suncor Energy in Chatham-Kent was opposed by the Chatham-Kent Wind Action Inc. and Katie Erickson. The review heard

from many experts on both sides before finding that the opponents had not proven serious health risk existed. "They did recognize there are still health concerns and questions that need to be answered," said Switzer, The Ontario Environmental

Review Tribunal decided on

July 18 that opponents did not prove that wind turbines would cause serious health

Switzer said that while the members had not endorsed any political party, as individuals, most were supportive of PC leader and Niagara West-Glanbrook MPP Tim Hudak's efforts and promise to scrap the Green Energy

"Most of our members have recognized that Tim's views on the wind turbines best represents our personal views," he said.

A bigger issue is that Mr. is commercially released. Switzer believes that due to declining manufacturing in Ontario, more power is not needed. He says the coal fired generators could be scrapped without building wind turbines. He questions why we need to produce more energy when we're so often paying other jurisdictions to take excess energy about the meeting.

being generated in Ontario. He says that Denmark, a country with a high per-

centage of wind generation. has not closed one coal fired plant as a result. He also thinks new technology enables coal generators to be safe and not cause adverse health effects

The documentary Windfall. by first-time filmmaker I sura Israel, documents the wind turbine debate in upstate New York, will be shown Aug. 24 in Smithville. It will be one of the last community showings of the film before it

It will be shown at 8 p.m. at Smithville District Christian High School and admission is free, he said. For more information

about WLWAG, visit their website at www.wlwag.com Representatives of Niagara Region Wind Action Group did not return phone calls

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